

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ACDA-10 PM-03 DODE-00 NSC-10

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 AEC-05

IO-03 NEA-07 DRC-01 /077 W

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R 121411Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0375

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 02302

LIMDIS NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, EEC, NATO, FR, GW

SUBJECT: EC NINE TREATMENT OF MBFR

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

REF: BONN 2177 AND PARIS 3614

1. AMBASSADOR ROTH INFORMED EMBOFF FEB 11 THAT GERMAN EC PRESIDENCY HOPES TO CONVENE FIRST MEETING OF NEW EC-9 MBFR ARMS CONTROL EXPERT GROUP IN FIRST WEEK OF MARCH. PURPOSE OF FIRST MEETING IS ELABORATION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE, FOR APPROVAL AT POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING THAT WILL OCCUR IN WEEK OF MARCH 11-15. ROTH AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT, AFTER ACCOMMODATING FRENCH WISH FOR FURTHER EC-9 DISCUSSION OF AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF  
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NUCLEAR WAR, EXPERT GROUP WOULD FOCUS ON SPECIFIC

POTENTIAL DANGERS OF MBFR FOR EUROPEAN INTERGRATION  
M(SEE BONN 1577). HE SAID GROUP WOULD NOT DIS-  
CUSS TACTICS OR OTHER ASPECTS OF MBFR POLICY.

2. COMMENT. AS REPORTED BONN 1992-PARA 3, FRG OFFICIALS  
(AND WE) SHARE EMBASSY PARIS CONCERN THAT FRENCH MIGHT  
UTILIZE EC-9 MBFR EXPERT GROUP TO OBSTRUCT MBFR-II  
NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT BRITISH, ITALIANS AND OTHER  
EUROPEAN ALLIES SKEPTICAL OF MBFR MIGHT BE INCLINED TO  
UTILIZE SUCH FRENCH TACTICS FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES. FRG  
OFFICIALS REALIZE THAT SUCH OBSTRUCTIONISM WOULD BE  
UNACCEPTABLE TO U.S. AND WOULD RUN AGAINST BONN'S CHIEF  
MBFR OBJECTIVE--I.E., CREATION OF DURABLE BASIS FOR  
STABLE U.S. FORCE LEVELS IN FRG  
AND WESTERN EUROPE; HENCE FRG COMMITMENT TO COMMON  
CEILING OBJECTIVE. WHILE GERMANS HAVE NO ILLUSIONS OVER  
ATTITUDE OF CURRENT FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO MBFR, THEY  
APPEAR TO HOPE THAT EC DISCUSSIONS WILL SHARPEN UNDER-  
STANDING OF SPECIFIC MBFR DANGERS FOR EUROPEAN DEVELOP-  
MENT, MAY AFFECT EVENTUALLY FUTURE FRENCH AS WELL AS  
OTHER EUROPEAN ATTITUDES TOWARD MBFR AND, SHOULD  
IMPORTANT CHANGES OCCUR IN GOF, PROVIDE VEHICLE FOR MORE  
ACTIVE FRENCH ROLE IN MBFR ENTERPRISE.

3. WHETHER OR NOT ABOVE OBJECTIVES ARE REALIZED, GIVEN  
PRIORITY FRG FOREIGN POLICY PRESENTLY ATTACHES TO  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, BONN IS

DETERMINED THAT EC-9 COMMENCE ORGANIZED DIALOGUE ON ARMS  
CONTROL AND SECURITY ISSUES WITH OBJECTIVE OF  
CLOSER EUROPEAN DEFENSE COOPERATION AND EUROPE SPEAKING  
WITH ONE VOICE ON DEFENSE ISSUES. WE  
WILL EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE OF FULLEST POSSIBLE  
EC BRIEFINGS ON MBFR AND OTHER SECURITY  
CONSULTATIONS.

HILLENBRAND

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